

UTILITIES SERVICE BOARD MEETING
September 18, 2006

UTILITIES SERVICE BOARD MEETINGS ARE RECORDED ELECTRONICALLY OR STENOGRAPHICALLY AND ARE AVAILABLE DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS IN THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES.

Board Vice President Henke called the regular meeting of the Utilities Service Board to order at 5:02 p.m. The meeting was held in Conference Room 100B at the Indiana University Research Park at 501 North Morton Street in Bloomington, Indiana.

Board members present: Susan Sandberg, Jeff Ehman, Tim Henke, Tim Mayer and Sam Vaught. Staff members present: Patrick Murphy, John Langley, Michael Horstman, Tom Staley, Jane Fleig, Mike Trexler, Adam Wason, Ben McCready, Nathan Schulte and Mike Hicks. Others present: Mark Menefee representing Indiana University, Margaret Fette representing the Libertarian Party and Sue Mayer.

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBER VAUGHT MOVED AND BOARD MEMBER EHMAN SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 5TH MEETING.

Board member Ehman pointed out that there was a mistake in the name of one of the people attending the meeting.

MOTION CARRIED WITH THE APPROVED CORRECTIONS. 4 AYES, 3 MEMBERS ABSENT, (SWAFFORD, ROBERTS AND WHIKEHART).

CLAIMS

BOARDMEMBER VAUGHT MOVED AND BOARDMEMBER SANDBERG SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CLAIMS AS FOLLOWS:

CLAIMS 0691323 THROUGH 0691389 INCLUDING \$197,522.13 FROM THE WATER OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE FUND, \$892.58 FROM THE WATER CONSTRUCTION FUND FOR A TOTAL OF \$198,414.71 FROM THE WATER UTILITY; CLAIMS 0630864 THROUGH 0630907 INCLUDING \$87,951.66 FROM THE WASTEWATER OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE FUND AND \$23,857.52 FROM THE WASTEWATER CONSTRUCTION FUND FOR A TOTAL OF \$111,809.18 FROM THE WASTEWATER UTILITY; AND TOTAL OF \$73,44 FROM THE WASTEWATER/ STORMWATER UTILITY. TOTAL CLAIMS APPROVED – \$310,297.33.

MOTION CARRIED. 4 AYES, 3 MEMBERS ABSENT, (SWAFFORD, ROBERTS AND WHIKEHART).

APPROVAL OF THE RENEWAL OF THE CONTRACT FOR LEE BALLIET:

Deputy Director John Langley gave some of the back ground history of the Bloomington Utilities Labor Management Council that was formed 5 years ago to initiate and implement plant operation policies. From the start a part time consultant in Labor Relations, Lee Balliet, was hired to guide the LMC in its endeavors. Mr. Langley said that he feels the longevity of the LMC is an indication of how worthwhile Mr. Balliet's contributions have been. The price charged for his help is very nominal. Mr. Balliet works on a one year lease that has been renewed from year to year for the past five years. It is now due to be renewed again for the next year. The not to exceed figure is \$6,667 although Mr. Langley does not anticipate that the full amount will be used.

BOARD MEMBER SANDBERG MOVED AND BOARD MEMBER EHMAN SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE CONTRACT FOR LEE BALLIET. MOTION CARRIED. 4 AYES, 3 MEMBERS ABSENT. (SWAFFORD, ROBERTS AND WHIKEHART)

APPROVAL OF FUNDING FOR THE REHABILITATION OF A DRYING BED AT DILLMAN ROAD WWTP:

Deputy Director Langley said that he is asking for \$33,000 to rehabilitate the last drying bed at Dillman Road. The plant was commissioned in 1982 and the drying beds went into operation shortly afterwards. Over the years the drying beds have been rehabilitated one or two at a time. It has always cost between \$25,000 and \$30,000. This time a little extra has been added because of inflation and the high price of concrete. This is a necessary maintenance item. Drying beds that have an asphalt base are being replaced with concrete which improves the drainage and therefore the efficiency of the drying. Leachate from the drying beds drains to the outside of the bed where it is collected in troughs and returned to the head of the plant to be processed before being released into the environment. The drying process results in a reduction of solids and weight which reduces the burden on the landfill.

Board member Vaught asked if this was just the standard procedure for rehabilitating drying beds. Mr. Langley replied that it is.

Board member Henke asked if all the other drying beds had already been rehabilitated. Mr. Langley replied that they had. This is the last one.

Deputy Director Langley explained that several years ago a press for de-watering had been installed. It works very well but is expensive to operate so the drying beds are used whenever it is possible.

Board member Henke asked what the difference is between a drying bed and a press. Mr. Langley replied that the drying beds work by gravity and the weight of water to reduce the amount of water in the sludge product. The sludge press is fed directly from the digesters. The material comes in at 3% solids and leaves the press room at about 26 to 28% solids which gives a product that seems to be dry.

BOARD MEMBER VAUGHT MOVED AND BOARD MEMBER EHMAN SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE FUNDING FOR THE REHABILITATION OF A DRYING BED AT DILLMAN ROAD WWTP. MOTION CARRIED. 4 AYES, 3 MEMBERS ABSENT. (ROBERTS, SWAFFORD AND WHIKEHART)

Board member Roberts arrived at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

No old business was presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

Board member Roberts mentioned that she had noticed that Social Security numbers are printed on Utilities Department pay checks and automatic deposit receipts. This can leave people vulnerable to identity theft. She asked about arranging to stop printing Social Security numbers. Administrative Assistant to the Director Jones said that she had looked into the matter. The Utilities Finance Department staff had explained that those numbers are only used internally and are never made available to the bank or anyone else outside of City Government. She said that the Employee Services Department of the Civil City are responsible for that policy and would be the people to approach about making a change in it.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no subcommittee meetings.

STAFF REPORTS:

Budget Analyst Trexler gave a budget summary update. He said that it all looks good. A net revenue is being shown in each of the funds. The budget is being under spent and the revenue is being under collected but it all comes out to a net increase in revenue. The numbers in the 2006 budget have been revised according to the 2007 budget to include the new rates and the new debts. Mr. Trexler pointed out that the budget for electricity is being overspent by about 2.5% but that is to be expected. The transportation budget is being under spent despite increased fuel costs.

Board member Vaught asked which water and waste water projects are still on the table for Extensions and Replacements. Very little of the amount budgeted has been spent.

Utilities Director Murphy said that substantial amounts have been set aside for projects. He is planning to meet with Assistant Director of Engineering Bengtson to discuss what the status of some of these projects is.

Mr. Trexler explained that his budget presentations are for the operations and maintenance fund. Significant amounts are being spent from SRF funds, bond proceeds and those sorts of things. Very little is coming out of operations and maintenance at this time.

Board member Henke asked for an update on scheduled projects.

Utilities Director Murphy pointed out that lots of the engineers' time and efforts have been going towards capital projects at the plants.

Board member Vaught asked if the First Street project would be happening in 2006. Mr. Murphy said that he didn't believe that the County will be ready to proceed before 2007.

Utilities Director Murphy reported that the Common Council had approved the Utilities budget during the previous week.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Board member Henke congratulated Superintendent of Operations Staley and his crew on the excellent job they did with a water loop at Covenanter Street.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

L. Thomas Swafford, President